

Docket Number EH-10469A 3
Appl. No. 10/814,066
Reply to Decision on Appeal mailed Aug. 18, 2006

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Remarks / Arguments

Claims 1 and 2 currently stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by Cain et al., US 4,417,854. Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying amendment to claims 1 and 2.

Support for the hub having a rotational axis is found at page 7, lines 29-30.

Support for the slots defining a slotwise direction is found at page 8, lines 11-12.

Support for the definition of proximal end as the end proximate a load transfer element (claim 2) or intended to be proximate a load transfer element (claim 1) is found at page 12, lines 19-22. Inclusion of this definition addresses the concern expressed on page 4 of the Board's decision mailed on August 18, 2006.

Support for the proximal end being rounded "as viewed by an observer looking radially toward a/the rotational axis" is found in FIG. 12A. One skilled in the art would recognize the radial direction especially in view of the specification. Inclusion of this limitation distinguishes the claim over the Cain et al. reference (US 4,417,854).

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Request for Reconsideration:

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1 and 2. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's undersigned representative if it appears that a telephone discussion would help resolve any outstanding matters.



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